

HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL



THE
GEORGE W. GAY LECTURE
UPON
MEDICAL ETHICS
FOR
1982-83

THE GEORGE W. GAY LECTURESHIP

In 1917, Dr. George W. Gay gave Harvard a fund to provide an annual income to support lectures "to the advanced, or graduating classes in the Medical School upon Medical Ethics, and upon wise and proper methods of conducting the business of physicians, as relates to fees, collections, investments, etc." The Gay Lectureship perpetuates his deep concern for the welfare of his patients and his appreciation of the constantly arising social and economic forces that impinge on medical care. The roster of Gay Lecturers comprises many distinguished leaders from medical and allied professional fields (listed on page 4). All medical students and members of the Faculty are cordially invited to attend the annual Lectures.

Born in Swanzev, New Hampshire on January 14, 1842, George Washington Gay entered the Harvard Medical School in 1864 after having served as an apprentice to a New Hampshire physician. During his final year at the Medical School, he secured a post at the Boston City Hospital as Surgical House Officer and was awarded simultaneously in 1868 his medical degree from Harvard and his diploma from the City Hospital.

One of the first surgeons to be appointed to the staff of the City Hospital, Dr. Gay began his service there in 1872 as a Visiting Surgeon; in 1899 he was appointed a Senior Surgeon. He was a pioneer in the then new field of aseptic surgery. He was also much interested in anaesthesia.

Dr. Gay was one of the first clinical teachers at the Harvard Medical School, serving as a Clinical Instructor in Surgery from 1888 to 1900 and as a Lecturer on Surgery from 1900 to 1907. At both the Medical School and the City Hospital, he was distinguished for his loyalty, ability and enthusiasm.

Owing to a serious illness in his early fifties, from which he never completely recovered, Dr. Gay was forced to relinquish the practice of surgery. A life of inactivity being inconceivable to such a physician, he sought out congenial tasks for promoting the welfare of his professional colleagues and their patients. He often appeared before legislative committees and other public bodies to advocate measures for the public welfare in the field of medicine and health.

Dr. Gay died on May 30, 1931, at his home in Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts, in his eighty-ninth year.

The Committee for the George W. Gay Lecture, 1982-83

Dr. Herbert L. Abrams, Chairman
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THE FACULTY OF MEDICINE OF HARVARD UNIVERSITY
requests the honor of your presence at the lecture to be given
under the George W. Gay Lectureship upon
Medical Ethics
by

JOSHUA LEDERBERG, Ph.D.
President, The Rockefeller University

“PROSTHETIC HEARTS: WHAT LIES AHEAD?”

Wednesday, May 18, 1983

Amphitheatre C, Building C, Harvard Medical School
5:00 PM

Joshua Lederberg, President of The Rockefeller University, was born in Montclair, New Jersey in 1925. He received his B.A. from Columbia College in 1944 and then, after two years at Columbia University's College of Physicians and Surgeons, he took a leave of absence to do research at Yale University with the late Edward L. Tatum. He never returned to medical school. While at Yale, where he received his Ph.D. in 1947, he discovered the mechanism of genetic recombination in bacteria, demonstrating in these micro-organisms the occurrence of a form of sexual reproduction.

For this and subsequent research on the organization of genetic material in bacteria, Dr. Lederberg was named co-recipient of the Nobel Prize in Medicine in 1958. He was then 33 years old. From 1947 to 1959, he was professor of genetics at the University of Wisconsin, serving for the last two years as chairman of the department of medical genetics. From 1959 until 1978, he taught at Stanford University's School of Medicine, as professor of genetics and as chairman of the department of genetics. In 1978, he was selected to succeed Dr. Edward Seitz as the fifth president of The Rockefeller University.

A member of the National Academy of Sciences and a charter member of its Institute of Medicine, Dr. Lederberg has been active on several government advisory boards dealing with problems of mental health and retardation. He served on the Advisory Committee for Medical Research of the World Health Organization and has done considerable writing for lay audiences, including a series of columns for the Washington Post Syndicate on the social impact of scientific programs.

Dr. Lederberg played an active role in NASA-sponsored missions to Mars. He has been a consultant to the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency and contributed to the successful negotiation of the treaty on biological weapons disarmament. A gifted scientist of international stature, Dr. Lederberg has shown throughout his career a deep concern for strengthening communications between science and the society it serves.

PREVIOUS GAY LECTURERS*

- 1922 Dr. John Bapst Blake, formerly Assistant Professor of Surgery, Harvard University
- 1923 Dr. George W. Gay
- 1924 Dr. Walter P. Bowers, Managing Editor, Boston Medical and Surgical Journal
- 1926 Dr. George G. Sears, Clinical Professor of Medicine, *Emeritus*, Harvard University
- 1927 Dr. Francis Weld Peabody, Professor of Medicine, Harvard University
- 1930 Dr. Samuel B. Woodward, formerly President, Massachusetts Medical Society
- Dr. William H. Robey, Clinical Professor of Medicine, Harvard University
- 1931 Dr. John M. Birnie, Secretary, New England Medical Society
- 1932 Dr. Roger I. Lee, formerly Henry K. Oliver Professor of Hygiene, Harvard University
- Dr. Frederick J. Cotton, Lecturer on Surgery, Harvard University
- 1933 Dr. Robert B. Osgood, John B. and Buckminster Brown Professor of Orthopedic Surgery, *Emeritus*, Harvard University
- Dr. Elliott P. Joslin, Clinical Professor of Medicine, Harvard University
- 1934 Dr. Arthur H. Ruggles, Superintendent, Butler Hospital (Providence, Rhode Island)
- Dr. John Homans, Clinical Professor of Surgery, Harvard University
- Dr. Joseph H. Pratt, Professor of Clinical Medicine, Tufts College
- Dr. Stephen Rushmore, Professor of Gynecology, Tufts College
- 1935 Dr. James B. Herrick, Professor of Medicine, *Emeritus*, Rush Medical College
- 1937 Dr. Lawrence K. Lunt, Psychiatrist (Boston, Massachusetts)
- Dr. O.H. Perry Pepper, Professor of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania
- 1938 Mr. Henry L. Shattuck, Treasurer, Harvard University
- Dr. Reginald Fitz, Lecturer on the History of Medicine, Harvard University
- Dr. Elton Mayo, Professor of Industrial Research, Harvard University
- 1939 Mr. Eliot Wadsworth, President, Boston Chamber of Commerce
- Dr. Robert L. DeNormandie, Member, Committee on Ethics and Discipline, Massachusetts Medical Society
- Dr. Donald Guthrie, Associate Professor of Surgery, University of Pennsylvania Graduate School of Medicine
- 1940 Mr. Phillips Ketchum, Attorney and Partner, Herrick, Smith, Donald, Farley & Ketchum (Boston, Massachusetts)
- 1941 Dr. Charles R. Austrian, Associate Professor of Medicine, Johns Hopkins University
- Dr. David Cheever, Associate Professor of Surgery, *Emeritus*, Harvard University
- Dr. T. Grier Miller, Professor of Clinical Medicine, University of Pennsylvania
- 1945 Mr. Ben Ames Williams, Author
- 1954 Dr. Hugh J. Morgan, Professor of Medicine, Vanderbilt University
- 1955 The Rev. George A. Buttrick, Plummer Professor of Christian Morals, Harvard University
- 1956 The Rev. Douglas Horton, Professor of Theology, Harvard University
- 1957 Dr. Erich Fromm, Professor of Psychoanalysis, National University of Mexico
- 1958 The Honorable Felix Frankfurter, Associate Justice, United States Supreme Court
- 1959 Dr. James Howard Means, Jackson Professor of Medicine, *Emeritus*, Harvard University
- 1960 Dr. Margaret Mead, Adjunct Professor of Anthropology, Columbia University
- 1961 Dr. Ralph Johnson Bunche, Under Secretary for Special Political Affairs, United Nations
- 1962 Mr. Erik Homburger Erikson, Professor of Human Development and Lecturer on Psychiatry, Harvard University
- 1963 Dr. Herman Ludwig Blumgart, Professor of Medicine, *Emeritus*, Harvard University
- 1965 Dr. Paul Freund, Carl M. Loeb University Professor, Harvard University
- 1970 Dr. I. Bernard Cohen, Professor of the History of Science, Member of the Faculty of Public Administration, Harvard University
- 1973 Dr. Elizabeth Kubler Ross, Assistant Professor of Psychiatry, University of Chicago
- 1976 Dr. Robert J. Lifton, Foundations Fund for Research, Yale University
- 1977 Dr. Franz J. Ingelfinger, Editor, *New England Journal of Medicine*
- 1978 Dr. Kenneth J. Ryan, Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Harvard University, Chairman, National Commission for the Protection of Human Subjects of Biomedical and Behavioral Research
- 1979 Dr. Carleton B. Chapman, President, The Commonwealth Fund
- 1980 Dr. Edward O. Wilson, Frank B. Baird, Jr., Professor of Science, Harvard University
- 1981 Dr. Arnold S. Relmann, Professor of Medicine, Harvard Medical School
- 1982 Robert F. Drinan, S.J., Professor of Constitutional Law and International Human Rights, Georgetown University Law Center.

*The positions listed are those held by the individuals at the time of their Gay Lectures